

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)
Plaintiff,) Case No. 4:05CR3090
vs.)
THOMAS NEAL WRIGHT,)
Defendant.) **TENTATIVE
FINDINGS**

I am in receipt of the revised presentence investigation report in this case. Except for the defendant's motion for departure due to overstatement of criminal history (filing 60), there are no objections or motions for departure or variance.

IT IS ORDERED that:

(1) The undersigned will consult and follow the Guidelines to the extent permitted and required by United States v. Booker, 125 S. Ct. 738 (2005). In this regard, the undersigned gives notice that, unless otherwise ordered, he will (a) give the advisory Guidelines substantial weight; (b) resolve all factual disputes relevant to sentencing by the greater weight of the evidence and without the aid of a jury; (c) impose upon the government the burden of proof on all Guideline-enhancements; (d) impose upon the defendant the burden of proof on all Guideline-mitigators; (e) depart from the advisory Guidelines, if appropriate, using pre-Booker departure theory; and (f) in cases where a departure using pre-Booker departure theory is not warranted, deviate or vary from the Guidelines only when there is a plainly superior, principled reason which justifies a sentence different than that called for by application of the advisory Guidelines.

(2) The motion for departure due to overstatement of criminal history (filing 60) is granted. As suggested by the probation officer (PSR ¶ 79), the crimes which

generate 6 points were committed a long time ago, the sentencing judge in those cases imposed concurrent sentences, and there has been no further convictions since the imposition of those sentence. These convictions therefore tend to overstate the likelihood of recidivism. Thus, I will depart from criminal history category III to criminal history category II.

(3) Except to the extent (if at all) that I have reserved an issue for later resolution in the preceding paragraph, the parties are herewith notified that my tentative findings are that the presentence report is correct in all respects.

(4) If **any** party wishes to challenge these tentative findings, said party shall, as soon as possible, but in any event at least five (5) business days before sentencing, file in the court file and serve upon opposing counsel and the court a motion challenging these tentative findings, supported by (a) such evidentiary materials as are required (giving due regard to the requirements of the local rules of practice respecting the submission of evidentiary materials), (b) a brief as to the law and (c) if an evidentiary hearing is requested, a statement describing why an evidentiary hearing is necessary and how long such a hearing would take.

(5) Absent submission of the information required by the preceding paragraph of this order, my tentative findings may become final and the presentence report may be adopted and relied upon by me without more.

(6) Unless otherwise ordered, any motion challenging these tentative findings shall be resolved at sentencing.

December 18, 2006.

BY THE COURT:

s/ *Richard G. Kopf*
United States District Judge